

of \$270 billion of cuts claimed by the Republicans. The trustees of the Medicare trust fund have stated that reducing Medicare by \$90 billion would extend the solvency of the trust fund without the prospect of a shortfall and maintain as sufficient a balance as has upheld the Medicare trust fund for the past 30 years.

Although H.R. 2422 is a significant step in the right direction, I do, however have concerns about some provisions which could significantly reduce provider reimbursement rates. Reducing these rates in States such as Minnesota where reimbursement rates are already low may have an unintended negative consequence. Still, we need alternatives to the Republican bill, and this measure serves as such an alternative.

The Medicare payment disparity that persists today between States should be addressed. The changes being advanced by reduced payments tend to highlight this difference but are not the genesis of the problem. That is, the low reimbursement rates for select States that have achieved significant cost savings are locked into place and become compounded by the policy changes being advanced.

CELEBRATION MARKS MORE THAN AN ANNIVERSARY FOR TAIWAN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, October 10 marks the anniversary of the birth of the Republic of China [ROC]. On this occasion, I wish to send my greetings and congratulations to the leaders on Taiwan, and especially President Lee, whom I have had the good fortune to meet with both in Taiwan and in the United States.

When President Lee of Taiwan came to Cornell in June, I had the opportunity to talk with him and discuss Taiwan's relationship with the United States. He thanked me for the incredible congressional support he had received prior to his visit, and reiterated his people's strong respect for the United States. He reaffirmed our bilateral friendship, and the desire of Taiwan to continue that friendship into the next century.

Taiwan is and has been a loyal ally and trading partner in Asia. Its people participate in and fully subscribe to the principles of freedom and democracy. They have worked with us on issues ranging from endangered species to trademark infringements. They look to us for guidance and protection.

President Clinton will be meeting with President Jiang at the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. It is ironic that the two Presidents will meet in honor of the United Nations, a body in which the 21 million people of Taiwan have no voice.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in urging President Clinton not to enter into any agreement which would further restrict our ally Taiwan, or compromise its growing democracy. Better relations with the PRC must not come at the sacrifice of the 21 million people on Taiwan who must depend on us to defend their interests.

The October 10 celebration should mark the continuance of the friendship between our two

countries, as well as the founding of a nation. Again, I congratulate Taiwan on the occasion of its National Day.

BOLEY'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this month the city of St. Petersburg and the county of Pinellas will be honoring the Boley Centers for Behavioral Health Care, Inc., on its 25th anniversary, and I, too, want to commend this organization and its founders led by Mary R. Koenig on this occasion.

The mission of the Boley Centers is to provide our community with comprehensive services for those with mental illnesses. Through its rehabilitation programs and a network of community residences and apartments, Boley Centers has helped thousands of disabled residents of St. Petersburg and Pinellas County. The vast majority of Boley Centers' clients have been integrated into the community without the need for any additional hospitalization, and this has meant a considerable savings to the State and the county and speaks highly of the staff and services provided by Boley Centers.

As one who has worked to help secure Federal funding for several of Boley Centers' resident complexes, I believe its clients are fortunate to have this outstanding program available to them in our community, and on this its silver anniversary, I salute Boley Centers, its Boley Angels, and the scores of others who have helped make Boley Centers one of the finest programs of its kind in our country.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE YWCA OF WESTERN NEW YORK

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize today the history and achievements of the YWCA of Western New York, which is celebrating its 125 anniversary on October 27.

The YWCA has a distinguished tradition of service to women, to Western New York, and to this country. The Western New York YWCA was founded in 1870, only 15 years after the founding of the national YWCA. The Western New York chapter lost no time in making its mark on the community.

One of its earliest efforts was to coordinate charity work in Buffalo. The coalition of charities it organized has lasted to this day, evolving into the present-day United Way. Other local organizations with roots in the YWCA are the Urban League, the Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and the Travelers Aid Society.

The Western New York YWCA has made its strongest mark on family and women's issues. It began child care and "well baby" programs early on, and it now operates the largest licensed after-school day care program in the region, along with other family support programs such as one for at-risk teens.

It has focused on assisting women in entering and advancing in the workplace—from recruiting women into necessary defense jobs in the Second World War to its current Leadership Development Program which encourages and prepares women to enter jobs traditionally held by men. The YWCA also runs a transitional housing program, which helps women in trouble to get back on their feet. It even runs a monthly cable program, called "Womanworks" which focuses on modern women's issues.

Of course, the YWCA also offers a wide range of fitness programs, on which many families in the community have come to rely. These programs include everything from youth sports to a special exercise program for people with arthritis.

Aside from its distinguished tradition of community service, the Western New York YWCA has made its mark on American history. For example, in the 1950's—a time of intense racial tension—it named Mary Wood as Executive Director; the first African-American YWCA executive in the country. At one time, it counted among its members Presidents Millard Fillmore and Grover Cleveland. In fact, the downtown building of the Western New York YWCA is at the site of the home of President Fillmore.

Mr. Speaker, the YWCA certainly has earned our recognition and appreciation as it marks 125 years of service to the region and the country. I congratulate this organization for carrying on in its superb traditions by continuing to provide the Western New York community with critical support programs, and I hope that it will celebrate many great anniversaries in the future.

HOLDEN SALUTES WORLD WAR II VETERANS

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to our World War II veterans as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of World War II.

We stand here today because of the sacrifices and efforts of those people who fought and gave their lives for freedom.

Countless soldiers, sailors, and airmen, gave their lives at places like Midway, Normandy, Anzio, Bastogne, and Okinawa, so that we could enjoy the blessings of liberty.

There were many heroes worthy of our recognition and praise. I am proud that one of those heroes is from my district, and is here with us today.

It is my great pleasure that Capt. Jim Burt of Wyomissing, PA, is here with us. Captain Burt is an Army veteran and a Congressional Medal of Honor winner.

Captain Burt risked his life in heavy fighting near the city of Aachen in Germany. Despite being wounded early in the fighting, Captain Burt led his troops for more than 8 days until victory was won.

I would like to thank Captain Burt, and all of the men and women who fought and gave their lives to preserve our freedom.

You answered the call of duty, and we thank you for all that you have done for our great country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring these fine men and women.

SALUTE TO OAKLAND PRIVATE
INDUSTRY COUNCIL

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Oakland Private Industry Council. The city of Oakland has truly benefited from this organization. The Oakland Private Industry Council should be applauded for actively promoting job training and placement of the economically disadvantaged.

The Oakland Private Industry Council is nationally recognized for its creative development of nontraditional employment and training programs. Just recently, a \$1.2 million grant from the State of California was awarded to the council. These funds will provide retraining for civilian workers displaced by the closure of the Oak Knoll Medical Center. These persons will be provided with critically needed skills for high demand occupations.

Governor Pete Wilson has commended the Oakland Private Industry Council 4 consecutive years for making an outstanding contribution to the development of Oakland's work force. Each year the council has exceeded its established performance goals.

This year the council again honors its service providers which have exceeded their established performance goals and their business partners who assisted them.

I join in saluting the Oakland Private Industry Council and this year's honorees. In recognition of their dedicated and professional service to Oakland's economically disadvantaged population, I would like to commend the Auto Parts Club, Youth Employment Partner Inc., Federal Express, Career Resource Center, Port of Oakland, Berkeley Adult School, Oakland Neighborhood Center, and the Vietnamese Fishermen Association.

Today, I pay a special tribute to the Oakland Private Industry Council for its continued hard work and dedication to the community in providing employment and training services for our city.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END
OF WORLD WAR II

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of World War II, I want to honor an Arizona National Guard Unit, the 158th Regimental Combat Team [RCT] or "Bushmasters" as they called themselves, which fought in the Pacific campaigns. When the war ended, they had spent 4 years overseas, 312 days in combat, and suffered approximately 1,600 casualties in three campaigns. While they went unnoticed with the

public, they were recognized by the Commander of the Army in the Pacific, Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The Bushmasters had earned three campaign streamers with two arrowheads, a Presidential unit citation, and the unending praise from General Douglas MacArthur. He proclaimed: "No greater fighting combat team ever deployed for battle."

Arizonans already knew what General MacArthur discovered about the Bushmasters because they were our soldiers. They were our husbands, our fathers, and our sons. They were citizen-soldiers who came from cities such as Phoenix and Tucson, from the many Indian Nations in Arizona, from the mining communities of eastern Arizona, from the timber and railroad towns up north, and from the ranch country in the south.

Before World War II, the Bushmaster Regiment already had a colorful past. The unit charged up San Juan Hill with Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders, secured the border when Poncho Villa raided the border towns, and fought in France during World War I. Arizonans had many reasons for joining the unit. Some of them joined for the camaraderie. Some joined because the unit was colorblind and it gave them dignity and equity that they did not have in civilian society. The unit had some of Arizona's more famous people come through its ranks, including the late Senator Carl Hayden and Pima Indian Chief Antonio Azul.

When the Bushmasters reported for Federal service, they proved their value during the Louisiana maneuvers in 1940. The regimental commander Col. J. Prugh Hernadon, a bookkeeper from Tucson, tried a new form of communication with his radios. He had native American members of his unit transmit messages in their native languages to keep the enemy from intercepting their radio transmissions.

The Bushmasters performed so well that the Army shipped them to the Panama Canal Zone shortly after Pearl Harbor was attacked. They were given the task of defending the canal from sabotage. A year later General MacArthur personally requested the Bushmaster Regiment to help him capture the island of New Guinea from the Japanese. In January, 1944, the 2d Battalion, under Lt. Col. Frederick Stofft of Tucson, were the first soldiers of the Bushmaster Regiment to enter combat.

The Bushmasters developed a reputation for their fighting skills. In the Philippines Capt. Bayard W. Hart, a Cherokee Indian, and his men of Company G from Safford, AZ, were awarded the Presidential unit citation for capturing a Japanese gun emplacement without a loss of life to his men. In Dutch New Guinea, they beat the battle-hardened Japanese Tiger Marines. Shortly after the battle they became feared by their enemy. Japanese shortwave broadcasts referred to them as "the butchers of the Pacific" for the rest of the war. It was no surprise to the Bushmasters that they were selected to lead the assault of the invasion of Japan.

When the war ended, the Bushmasters returned home to Arizona, going back to the lives they had known before the war. They may have come from different cultures, spoke different languages, and grown up in different traditions, but they fought for the values they all shared as Americans: freedom, democracy, and justice.

Mr. Speaker, Americans can best remember their sacrifice by striving to live by those values that they were so willing to fight and die for.

OMNIBUS BILLS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, October 4, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

The operations of the federal government have received enormous scrutiny recently. Many Americans saw the last election as a call to dramatically reduce the size and scope of the federal government. The House of Representatives has responded by passing bills to place limits on government regulations, and will soon consider measures to eliminate entire government agencies.

But in the midst of all the high-profile activity, less sweeping but important changes have been made to help government work more efficiently. The challenge before us is to determine what we want the government to do, and make sure that it does the job well.

Reinventing government: Two years ago, Vice President Gore came forth with recommendations for reforming the way the federal government operates. He recently detailed the progress that has been made on implementing these recommendations.

Last year, Congress passed legislation to cut 272,000 federal employees. So far, 160,000 have been cut. There are now fewer federal employees than there were when John F. Kennedy was president. Furthermore, federal agencies have closed more than 2,000 field offices.

In addition, 16,000 pages of regulations have been eliminated, and 31,000 are being reworked—resulting in an estimated savings to the public of nearly \$28 billion. For example, the Environmental Protection Agency has either cut or changed 85% of its regulations, thereby cutting its paperwork requirements by 25%. These changes are estimated to save industry 20 million hours of labor a year. The Department of Housing and Urban Development has eliminated 65% of its regulations; the Small Business Administration, 50%.

But just as important as cutting back on the size of government is making it work more effectively, and progress is being made on this front as well. Earlier this year, a national business magazine evaluated a number of businesses' telephone customer service. The magazine gave its highest rating to the Social Security Administration, which outperformed companies such as Southwest Airlines and L.L. Bean. The IRS has also significantly improved its telephone service, and has pledged to cancel penalties for taxpayers who are given incorrect information.

Congress has acted to improve government efficiency as well. A law enacted earlier this year makes it more difficult for the federal government to impose unfunded mandates on state and local governments. Congress also strengthened a law to lessen the paperwork burden imposed by the federal government on businesses and individuals.

Both the House and Senate have passed bills which would place limits on federal agencies' power to issue new regulations and require them to perform detailed cost-benefit analyses before new rules could usually be issued.